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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re United States Patent Application of:)	Docket No.:	4172-120
Applicant:)	Examiner:	Mathieu D. VARGOT
Application No.:)	Art Unit:	1732
Date Filed:)	Confirm. No.:	1569
Title:)	Customer No.:	
PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING HOLLOW FIBERS)		23448

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION CERTIFICATE
ATTN: Examiner Mathieu D. VARGOT
Fax No. (571) 273-8300

I hereby certify that this document is being filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, via facsimile transmission addressed to Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on July 3, 2006 and transmitted to USPTO facsimile transmission number (571) 273-8300.

3

Number of Pages

Steven J. Hultquist

November 20, 2006

Date

RESPONSE TO OCTOBER 18, 2006 OFFICE ACTION
IN UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/811,347

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This responds to the October 18, 2006 Office Action in the above-identified application.

In the October 18, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner has imposed a species election requirement, between:

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4172-120

- **Species A** directed to forming the fiber by removing the solid core fiber from the solidified polymeric membranes; and
- **Species B** directed to forming the fiber by swelling the solidified polymeric membrane to effect disengagement from the solid core fiber.

In response, applicants elect **Species A**. Such election is **with traverse**.

The traversal is based on the fact that Species B identified by the Examiner is encompassed within the claims directed to Species A, since the method of swelling the solidified polymeric membrane to effect disengagement from the solid core fiber requires that the polymeric membrane be solidified in the first instance, and the solid core fiber thereafter is removed from it, albeit with swelling of such polymeric membrane (subsequent to solidification thereof).

Accordingly, the claims readable on Species A claims include all claims 1-68, 71 and 76-87 pending in the application.

Concerning the swelling of the polymeric membrane to effect disengagement of the solid core fiber, the claims related to such specific methodology are claims 44-55 and 83.

The claims that do not require such swelling of the membrane prior to the removal of the solid core fiber are claims 1-43, 56-68, 71, 76-82 and 84-87.

Consistent with the foregoing, it is requested that all claims 1-68, 71 and 76-87 be examined, and further, that such claims be allowed, in view of the August 1, 2006 Amendment in the application, showing the patentable distinction of such claims over the cited art.

Respectfully submitted,



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4172-120

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Authorization is hereby given for charging of any fee or amount properly payable
in connection with the filing of this Amendment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3284.